THE EXAMINER.

No. 14. *SUNDAY, APRIL* 3, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 14.

THE CITY ADDRESS.

It is a general fault in compositions of this nature, that there is a very observable contradiction in their origin and their style. When any loyal Citizens approach the Throne with their assurances of fidelity, there must be some peculiar ground of anxiety for the step they have taken, and yet before the conclusion of the Address, one is sure to discover that there is no ground at all: the times indeed are allowed to be dreadful, and the crisis most important; but then we always contrive to have such an exquisite Constitution and such an exquisite set of Ministers, that there is no reason to be alarmed though the whole world is bursting around us.

The present Address is a complete specimen of that unambitious common-place and that accommodating loyalty, which any worthy set of Aldermen who wish to exhibit themselves at Court, may acquire by referring to the City Journals. It seems made for a tight pair of spectacles and an unsophisticated twang of nose. If its reader in fact were a person accustomed to the job, he might dole through the oration with as much leisure of look and as much dreary complacency of recollection, as a hack-parson buzzes through the litany. The second paragraph however commences with an unusual vivacity as well as correctness of expression. "The Citizens of London," it observes, "are truly sensible of the blessings which the people of this country enjoy *in a peculiar manner*." This is a snug idea, well worthy of the City Court. I have heard of the peculiar *blessings* enjoyed by my countrymen, but it was reserved for a more refined imagination to become gay at the peculiar *manner* of the enjoyment. I anticipate the surprise and envy of the French when they read this sentence. The citizens of Paris will certainly think not only that we enjoy a peculiar safety at our fire-sides, but that we have discovered some new method of eating our toast, or dressing our turtle: they will imagine perhaps that a criminal who enjoys the liberty of a trial by jury is treated with a dance by the judges, or that the Liverymen who enjoy the *freedom of election* really do see their own constituents in parliament. The Common Council should positively restrain this luxuriance of fancy. Englishmen certainly have peculiar blessings above any nation existing, and English Aldermen may have a peculiar method of enjoying them, but it is not every one of my countrymen who has so peculiar a feeling of the manner of eating his dinner, or so gallant an enthusiasm for the British freedom of a Guildhall feast.

The next sentences are somewhat perplexing, when the present Address of the City is compared with their Petition to Parliament against the Reversionary Grants. The Aldermen and Common Council congratulate themselves that amidst all the convulsions of Europe, they yet have the happiness "to possess, *unimpaired*, their glorious Constitution, and to be governed by the mildest," &c. &c. I need not quote the rest. Now it appears a little odd, that these gentlemen should come forward to declaim about the perfect purity of the Constitution, and that a few days afterwards they should petition Parliament to abridge the royal prerogative. Is not this like congratulating a man on his perfect health, and then hinting that he had better send for a physician? The trick of party is not well concealed. The disputes, and jealousies, and intrigues of statesmen may be found in the city, but the Common Council are still no great statesmen in vicious ingenuity. What! Would they persuade us that the Constitution is unimpaired, when the free spirit of election has almost vanished, when the legislative power is become more corrupt than the executive, when they themselves are about to petition Parliament for an abridgment of the royal prerogative, and when any set of Ministers can dictate any set of addresses to the city legislature? People may suppose that the Petition against Reversionary Grants is a sufficient proof of the political spirit of the city and of its independence of the present Ministry; but the secret of this Petition is easily discoverable. I do not believe, that the Ministers really wish to continue the Reversionary Grants; they see a few courtiers making laws for the Parliament, and though they may not disapprove of laws thus made, yet they would wish to keep the legislative power to themselves. The city therefore petitions, the city *Foxites* are drawn into the snare, and the Ministers exclaim with a face of candid surprise, "God bless us, here are the Common Council petitioning! Really, my Lords, we must give way. One must not disoblige our good city of London." All this would be very amusing, were it not too gross to conceal that universal state dropsy which has given a new aspect of

unweildy corruption to the corporation of the great city.

The last paragraph but one is lamentably ridiculous. The Citizens assure his MAJESTY that they *firmly rely* upon "the extinction of party spirit, most essentially necessary at this very important crisis." This anticipation of party extinction is just as much as to say, that the Citizens are ready to shed the last drop of their blood for the country, for it is evident that before party can be extinguished, the violent party men, who fill the Common Council, must be no longer in being. Ask Mr. WAITHMAN, for instance, what he means by the extinction of party, and he will tell you, "The extinction of the *Pittites* and of all other enemies to public liberty:" Ask Mr. DIXON, and he will reply, "The extinction of the *Foxites* and all other enemies to public order."

The trick indeed is not well concealed. The Ministers were annoyed by the numerous petitions for peace, and so they must have a petition for war, for the present Address is nothing else but an encouraging slap on the shoulder to the fighting energies of the Administration. As to the tautological conclusion, which doubts not that his MAJESTY "will confound and defeat the designs of our inveterate enemy" and at length obtain "a peace at once honourable, lasting, and secure," it is nothing but a flourishing something by way of elegant finish, like the serpentine gaieties of a writing master's pen. These little pieces of sentimental filligree at the bottom of threadbare declamations have as little to do with the character of the wearer as the phylacteries or scripture sentences which the Jews used to wear at the edges of their threadbare garments.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, MARCH 18.—Concerning the journey of his Majesty the Emperor, nothing is known; but he is expected in Spain. According to intelligence from that kingdom, the Grand Duke of Berg, after reviewing the Guard of Honour at Bayonne, proceeded further, and is already at Valladolid.

MARCH 23.—The *Moniteur* of yesterday contains the intelligence of the march of the Russian troops into Finland, and the arrest of the Russian Minister at Stockholm, with the sealing of his papers, &c. It adds the following remarks:—"Such an outrage on the rights of nations, which is known only to barbarians, has roused the indignation of the whole world. Of what does the King of Sweden complain? That Russia has declared war against him! More than six months are passed since Russia intimated to him, that all the principles of neutrality had been broken, and that his alliance with England could not be suffered, so that war must necessarily follow. On the other side, a French army is entering Zealand, and all preparations are making to send these allies of England to America, that they may reign there. The King of England may doubtless congratulate himself again in Parliament, as he did before, on the new power which he grants to his ally: it is pretended also, that England is to give St. Thomas's to the King of Sweden as an indemnification. Thus the brave Swedish nation, after having seen their commerce annihilated, is torn to pieces by a war in their interior. How dreadful a calamity it is for a nation to have a King who is governed by levity and folly!"

PRUSSIA.

KONIGSBERG, MARCH 8.—Our Court has published the following

DECLARATION:

"His Royal Majesty the King of Prussia, our most gracious Sovereign, has been solicited by both Imperial Courts of Paris and St. Petersburgh, consistently with the system of the other Powers of the Continent, and the Declaration against England, to extend the same measures against Sweden which have been taken against England, on account of her fresh alliance with that Power. In imitation of the Declaration issued by the Emperor of Russia on the 10th (22d) of February, in this year, his Majesty has accordingly *broken off all relations with Sweden*, and commands all in office under him, under the penalty of severe punishment, to refrain from all community or intercourse whatever with Sweden. In pursuance of this, from the present moment, and till farther orders, all Prussian harbours shall be utterly closed against Swedish vessels; Prussian vessels shall no longer be sent into Sweden, neither shall Swedish or neutral ships or wares which come from Sweden, be admitted into Prussian harbours.

"Koningsberg, March 6."

PERSIA.

TEHERAN (PERSIA), DEC. 24.—General Gardanne, the Plenipotentiary of his Imperial Majesty, arrived here on the 4th instant. He was sent in the month of May from Finkenstein. Feth-Ali, Sovereign of Persia, has received the General in the most honourable manner, and his presentation took place with a splendour never before witnessed in respect to an European Minister. In order to testify his respect to the Emperor Napoleon, the Emperor of Persia has presented General Gardanne with the order of the Sun of the first class, and has distributed orders of the second class to the Secretaries of Legation, &c.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A few days since a violent explosion happened at the gunpowder-works, belonging to Messrs. Jenkins and Love, at Battle, in Sussex. It began in the corning-house, and communicated from thence to a magazine, wherein were upwards of 200 barrels of gunpowder, the explosion of which swept away the drying-house, running-house, and other buildings. Two men who were at work were killed, and a child lost its life by being struck by some of the shattered ruins. The mills are but slightly damaged.

HEREFORD.—In an action brought by Miss Matty, of the Wear, near Hereford, against Mr. Wilson, Attorney, near Ross, to recover 1000l. the penalty of a bond granted by the defendant to the plaintiff, promising her marriage, the Jury, after a long trial, gave a verdict for 600l.—In the cause, Tate v. Homfray, for words spoken, a verdict was found for the plaintiff, with 500l. damages.

A duel took place on Monday, in a field near the village of Waltham, Bucks, between Lieut. H. and Mr. W. a gentleman of fortune, at Waltham. The dispute originated in consequence of the officer, who was on the recruiting service, having persisted in forcing his addresses to a sister of Mr. W. the lady having permitted his visits. A casual rencontre took place on Sunday, when a horsewhip was introduced, and on the subsequent day a duel ensued, when Mr. W. wounded his antagonist dangerously in the hip.

A few days since, at Ross, J. Butler, and J. Andrews, patten-ring makers (the former about 40, and the latter 18), quarrelled, and agreed to fight, during which, Andrews struck his antagonist so violently under the ear, that he instantly expired! The Coroner returned a verdict of—Manslaughter; upon which he surrendered himself for trial at Hereford Assizes, and was acquitted.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, MARCH 28.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Orders in Council Bill, and several other Bills.

The House in a Committee heard Counsel and several witnesses in support of the Petitions against the Orders in Counsel. The tendency of the evidence was to attribute to those Orders the present stagnation of Commerce.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29.

Lord HOLLAND brought forward five Resolutions, expressive of the disapprobation of the House as to the general policy of the late Orders in Council, which his Lordship considered as likely to involve Great Britain and America in a war.

Lords WESTMORLAND and MULGRAVE defended the measures of Government; and on a division the Resolutions were negatived by a large majority.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30.

The Bills on the table were forwarded one stage.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

Several witnesses were examined in support of the Petition against the Orders in Council, and the examination was ordered to be further proceeded in on Monday next.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

The Duke of NORFOLK presented a Petition from the Corporation of London, praying for the abolition of sinecure places and pensions. His Grace stated, that it was unanimously agreed to by the most numerous meeting of the Common Council which had occurred for many years. As an opportunity would most probably soon be afforded of recurring to the subject of the Petition, he would satisfy himself at present, with moving that the Petition should lie on the table.—Ordered.—Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, MARCH 28.

The Sheriffs of London presented a Petition from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the same, against the Bill for constructing a Bridge across the Thames, from the Savoy Precinct to Cuper's Bridge on the Surrey side. The Petition stated that the Bill was injurious to the interests of the Corporation.

OFFICES IN REVERSION.

Mr. BANKES rose to move for leave to bring in a Bill prohibiting the Grant of Offices in Reversion for Joint-Lives, with Benefit of Survivorship. At some length he went into the merits of the former Bill, which had been negatived in the Upper House, and described his intention of proposing in the present Bill, that no Office should be in future granted, but on a vacancy occurring. He meant also, in order to do away objections to this Bill in another place, to move that it should only endure for a time to be limited.

Mr. PERCEVAL said he had no objection to the motion, but in its future stage he should submit certain amendments which would tend to insure the Bill passing in the other House. He agreed with Mr. Bankes in deprecating any difference in opinion with the other House. The first Bill had been thrown out by the Lords, from an idea that it trenched on the prerogative, which it implied, without any inquiry having taken place. He intended, as one of his amendments, to propose, that whenever any grant should be conceded by the Crown, that notice of the same should, soon thereafter, be inserted in the *Gazette*; and also that every such grant should be subject to abolition, either by the King, or by an Address of the House to his Majesty to that effect.

The Hon. Mr. WARD spoke in favour of the Bill. The chief benefit it held out was, that the office was necessarily abolished by the demise of an incumbent. He did not support the Bill as an insolated measure, but as part of a system which had induced the House to persevere in enquiry, and was an earnest of future reform. There was one strong inducement to passing the present Bill, which was the state of the public feeling on the subject, and that feeling ought certainly to be attended to by the House. The wisdom of the Lords in throwing out both the former Bills, did not correspond with their purity, but on the contrary had excited a vast deal of jealousy in the public mind on financial matters at large. He did not look to economy as a means of alleviating the burdens imposed on the people, but the people ought to be informed that they did not suffer privations for establishments that were unnecessary. There was a faction in the country, unconnected with Parliament, bent upon blackening its character, which said that the Parliament was all equally corrupt, and that its Members attended to nothing but their own interests. These allegations were certainly calumnious, but the House ought to demonstrate, by agreeing to the Bill, that they were unfounded. It would indeed be most unfortunate, if the great Aristocracy—if the hereditary Counsellors of the King were so much misled, as to refuse to make this recognition. That misfortune would be much encreased, if certain Illustrious Personages, to whose splendour the House of Commons had lately contributed so largely, should be misguided enough to take part against a measure, not direc[t] against the prerogative of the Crown, but simply ha[s] in view the diminution of the public expenditure. [C]onnexed prodigious revolutions in the state [o]f n[a]narchies had been totally upr[o]i[n]shaken to their centres. He wi[sh] who were most deeply interested, woul[d] tory of these awful changes. They would had been uniformly preceded by a strong people for reformation and retrenchment, and by [a] born, proud, obstinate resolution, in the Prince and Nobles of the land to resist that desire. He anxiously hoped that this country was far from being placed in such circumstances; but he must say that if any one line of conduct was more favourable than another to the views of those who were the advocates of revolution, it was precisely that line of conduct which had lately been adopted by the Upper House of Parliament. Adverting to the objections to the Bill, which had so suddenly flashed upon the mind of the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite, he observed that this circumstance suggested to his mind very serious reflections on the nature of the influence under which that Right Hon. Gentleman and his coadjutors acted

—an influence as destructive to their own dignity, as it was to the interests of the people. They were Ministers and no Ministers; they were subject to be thwarted by a secret but irresponsible power. They had the title without having the privileges of office. He was no friend to the present Administration; but such as it was, while it did last, he wished it to be invested with the power which belonged to it, and that it should not be degraded by a subjection to Court influence. He cordially supported the motion; if he had any objection to the proposition of his Hon. Friend, it was, that he did not submit the Bill in a shape as nearly resembling the former one as was compatible with the rules of Parliament.

Mr. W. DUNDAS defended the prerogative of the Crown, in giving places to deserving objects, and insisted, if the Bill passed into a law, it would not have the effect anticipated by the Hon. Mover.

Mr. PONSONBY explained the prerogative of the Crown, so far as the people were concerned, in supporting unnecessary taxation. But Parliament had a right to interfere, when the Crown took too rapid strides, as in the present instance.

Mr. BIDDULPH deplored the situation of the people of England, borne down, as they were, with taxes, at the time the Bill was rejected in another House.

Leave was given to bring in the Bill.

LOTTERIES.

Mr. SCROOPE BERNARD, pursuant to notice, moved, "That a Committee be appointed to inquire how far the evils attending Lotteries have been remedied by the laws passed respecting the same, and to report their observations thereon to the House, together with such further measures as may be necessary for remedying the same." The Hon. Gentleman prefaced his motion by several observations on the bad effects of Lotteries, and on their tendency to produce profligate habits, and much misery amongst those orders of society which, as they constituted the chief strength of a nation, so they ought to form the chief care of Government. He then went on to remark, on what he justly termed the disgraceful expedients practised by the proprietors of the lottery, to which they were necessarily led by the cupidity of Government, in taking from them a price for each ticket much beyond its real value. They had recourse to publications, manifestoes, and advertisements of the most extravagant and pernicious nature, which promised to the ignorant and inexperienced a certain benefit from adventuring in this delusive scheme. Hence the unwary tradesman returning on Saturday evening from labour, with the wages of his weekly industry, the only hopes of his family's subsistence, is entrapped, and gulled of his money by the false statements of the lottery proprietors. The more deadly and dangerous evil of insurance, he observed, which is so illegally and universally carried on, to the destruction of the industry, fidelity, and virtue, of that class on whose morals so much of our national depends, arose from the original measure of Government, and it was idle for any set of Ministers to talk of preventative statutes, while by continuing the system of lotteries they acted as panders to the vice, the perpetration of which they punished. If, however, from the report of the Committee which he proposed should be appointed, it should be thought desirable that the present mode of carrying on lotteries should be discontinued, he was of opinion that such persons as had embarked property in such speculations should be saved harmless. He therefore moved, &c. &c.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER had no objection to the inquiry proposed with a view to remedy the evils resulting from unlicensed lotteries and insurances, but he could not consent to the abolition of lotteries altogether, which produced to the revenue about 5 or 600,000l. annually. He could not agree to do any thing that should diminish the value of the ticket in public estimation, for that would be to diminish the supply. The inconveniences resulting from lotteries had been increased by the facility which had been given to private lotteries, which were attended with all the evils of state lotteries, without any of the public advantage. Much had been done already to lessen the mischief with which lotteries might be attended, and if any thing farther could be done, without injury to the revenue derived from this source, he should be glad to concur in giving effect to that object.

The motion was then agreed to, and Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. H. Thornton, Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Sharp, Lord Temple, and several others, were appointed as the Committee.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29.

Lord FOLKSTONE moved, that an Address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to return the Danish Fleet at the conclusion of a general Peace. His Lordship prefaced his motion by a speech of some length, in which he contended that Denmark wished to maintain her neutrality, and that the British Government had avowed that the seizure of her fleet was resorted to only for the purpose of preventing its being used by France to the injury of this country.

Mr. S. THORNTON thought that the question of restoration ought to be left entirely with his Majesty.

After some further conversation, the motion was negatived by a large majority.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30.

Mr. BROGDEN and Mr. MELLISH presented Petitions from the Inhabitants of Wandsworth, Battersea, Pimlico, Kensington, and Knightsbridge, in favour of the intended Bridge across the Thames, at Vauxhall.

The Irish Cotton Wool, and Bark Prohibition Bill, was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

The Indictments Bill, and the Orders in Council Indemnity Bill, were severally read a third time and passed.

Mr. BANKES brought up a Bill prohibiting the Grant of Places in Reversion for Joint Lives, with Benefit of Survivorship, for a time to be limited.—Read a first time.

MARQUIS WELLESLEY.

Lord A. HAMILTON rose, pursuant to notice, to submit certain resolutions for indemnifying the Nabob of Oude for the treatment he had experienced from the Marquis Wellesley. The facts of this case have been repeatedly discussed, and are fully before the public; of course we deem it unnecessary to follow the Noble Lord through his statement. He concluded by moving a string of resolutions, stating generally, that by the Treaty between Lord Teignmouth and the Nabob of Oude, the annual subsidy of the Nabob was 56 lacs of rupees, but that by the Treaty with Lord Wellesley that sum had been encreased to 730 lacs.—The last resolution suggested the propriety of the East India Company revising that Treaty, in order that the Nabob might be indemnified for the losses he had sustained.

Mr. DUNDAS did not expect that the Noble Lord would have brought forward this subject, after the very recent and ample discussion it had undergone, on the resolutions of Lord Folkestone. He contended, from the result of those discussions, that Lord Wellesley had been acquitted of all the charges brought against him. He concluded by moving the previous question on all the Noble Lord's resolutions excepting the last, to which, he said, he should give a flat and positive negative.

Mr. H. MARTIN supported the resolutions; contending, that no case had been made out, shewing that there was the smallest particle of either justice or policy in the conduct of Lord Wellesley towards the Nabob of Oude.

Mr. R. THORNTON had always deprecated the policy pursued by the Marquis Wellesley in India. The unfortunate Nabob had been very ill treated, in compelling him

to sign a Treaty under the horrors of compulsion. The House, therefore, ought to do justice to the injured Prince. The Treaty held out friendship, but ended in cruelty and injustice. The Nabob had in all respects been treated like Bonaparte's conquered Princes, in squeezing from them their last penny, under the pretence of its being done by way of "Treaty:" he was sorry to use strong language, but the circumstances warranted it. The Court of Directors never sanctioned the measure; they had been called upon to give their usual approbation before they had read the Treaty.

The House then divided—For the previous question 80—against it 20.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

The Sheriffs of London presented at the bar two Petitions from the Corporation; one against the Vauxhall Bridge Bill, and the other in favour of the Reversion Bill; which, on the motion of Sir C. PRICE, were read, and ordered to be laid on the table.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, when the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER proposed that the future management of the Game Duties be taken from the Stamp Office and added to the Assessed Taxes, for the more effectual means of collecting the same, and that woodcocks and snipes should be considered as game, so as to prevent persons from eluding the payment of the game licences. The assessed taxes amounted to 5,500,000l.; he proposed to equalize the taxes under that head, adding 2 per cent. which would yield 110,000l.

Mr. W. S. STANHOPE complained of the different surcharges made by Surveyors, frequently from wanton motives, which he hoped would be remedied.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed, it was his intention to submit a Bill to the House for that express purpose.

Mr. T. T. JONES said, that taxes were rendered more odious by the surcharges of Surveyors, whom the people considered pests of society. In one district, he knew of 700 surcharges, and only one out of that number was substantiated. Surveyors, in such cases, ought to be severely punished.

After a few words from Mr. Biddulph and Mr. Huskisson, the resolutions were agreed to, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, when the following grants were made to his Majesty, viz.—63,393l. for carrying on the Military Canal—1299l. for the Thames Police Establishment—3500l. for the Board of Works—348l. to the Commissioners for investigating the Debts of the Prince of Wales—3597l. Bounty on Fish imported to the West Indies from the British Colonies in America—219l. to Mr. Clementson, Sergeant of that House, for house-rent—556l. to Dr. Broom, Clerk, for expences incurred in the Non-residence Bill—1613l. to W. Watson, Esq. Sergeant of the House of Lords—2298l. to Lord Walsingham, as Chairman of the Committees in the House of Lords—1560l. to Mr. Grant, Secretary to the Commissioners of Military Enquiry—127l. additional to Dr. Broom, Clerk—661l. to Mr. Grove, for removing certain monuments in Westminster Abbey—2175l. for New South Wales—134l. to Mr. Nettleship, Clerk of the Grocers' Company, for Sugar-returns—166l. for a Bill drawn on Mr. Chinnery, from St. Vincent's—1325l. to L. Hansard, for printing the New Plan of Finance—3236l. to Mrs. Park, widow of Mungo Parke—1085l. to Mr. Anderson, whose son accompanied that traveller—513l. to Sir S. Hood, for arrears of salary while one of the Commissioners of Trinidad—6702l. to the representatives of Col. Fullarton, for ditto—2311l. to Col. Rutherford, Surveyor-General of Trinidad—366l. to H. Gunsel, Esq. to pay Clerks attending on Committees—762l. to E. Stracy, Counsel to the Chairman of the Committees in the House of Lords—6345l. for the Horse Patrole round the Metropolis—The Report was ordered to be received on Monday.

The Irish East India Warehousing Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House then went into a Committee on the Petitions against the late Orders in Council. Mr. Brougham was heard in favour of the Petitioners.

Adjourned till Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. Harvey, Springfield, Essex, bricklayer, from March 29, to May 17, at ten, at Guildhall.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

I. Bernal, jun. Great Prescot-street, money-scrivener.

J. Seccombe and C. Burley, Horrabridge, Devonshire; J. Lewarne, Truro; W. Hore and Catharine Hoyte, Grampound; and R. Searle, Launceston, woollen-manufacturers.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Huntington, Walford, calico-printer, April 16, at one, 23, at two, May 10, at one, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Jennings and Collier, Great Shire-lane.

W. Dinwinddie, and R. Wilkinson, Manchester, insurance-brokers, April 5, 12, at eleven, May 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Dennetts and Greaves, King's Arms-yard, Coleman-street.

T. Chattain, High Holborn, cork-cutter, April 5, 12, May 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Aspinal, Chancery-lane.

W. Lawson, St. Catherine's-street, biscuit-baker, April 2, 12, May 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Noy, Mincing-lane.

S. Baker, Borough, upholsteter, April 5, at ten, April 9, at eleven, May 10, at ten. Attorney, Mr. Ellis, Hatton-garden.

J. Hill, Fountain-place, City-road, flour-factor, April 2, 11, at twelve, May 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Hester, Lincoln's Inn.

T. Chippendall, St. Martin's-lane, upholsterer, April 2, 12, May 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Burgess, Curzon-street.

W. Partington, Manchester, money-scrivener, April 2, 11, at twelve, May 10, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Hurd, Inner Temple.

J. Bull, Kingston, Isle of Wight, corn-dealer, April 11, at two, 12, at eleven, May 10, at twelve, at the Bugle Inn, Newport. Attorney, Mr. Gilbert, Newport.

T. Bolton, Langton Little, Yorkshire, dealer, April 6, 7, May 10, at the Town's Hall Tavern, Richmond. Attorney, Mr. Sowerby, Richmond.

B. Williams, Liverpool, linen-draper, May 2, 3, 10, at one, at the Star and Garter Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Murrow, Liverpool.

J. Tys[illegible], Liverpool, tallow-chandler, April 18, 19, May 10, at eleven, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Avison, Liverpool.

J. Hatton, Lymm, Cheshire, butcher, April 5, 9, May 10, at two, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Heslop, Manchester.

T. Crockett, Oxford, dealer, April 25, 26, May 10, at eight, at the Angel Inn, Oxford. Attorney, Mr. Robertson, Oxford.

DIVIDENDS.

May 3. J. Allen, Rotherhithe, coal-merchant.—April 23, S. W. Lane, Davis-street, Berkeley-square, coach-maker.—May 7. B. Baddeley, Whitechapel, grocer.—May 7. T. Coriett, Friday-street, warehouseman.—April 19. R. Pringle, Northumberland-street, jeweller.—April 26. J. Carbery, Vine-street, warehouseman.—April 30. W. Manby, Strand, oil and colourman.—

May 30. G. Ainsworth, Warrington, and J. Stevens, Liverpool, wire-drawers.—April 25. H. Madden, Liverpool, merchant.—April 25. J. R. Ashe, Ormskirk, draper.—April 23. A. Lister, Marsh-Chappel, Lincolnshire, grocer.—April 21. W. Rennell, jun. Teignmouth, shopkeeper. May 10. W. Lees, Liverpool, merchant —April 20. W. Joynson and R. Lewis, Manchester, corn dealers.—April 26. A. Smith, Hull, baker.—April 30. W. Goulton, Selby, Yorkshire, linen-draper.—April 25. R. Preston, Liverpool, merchant.—April 20. W. Searle, Chudleigh, shopkeeper. —April 20. J. Leedham, Hull, linen-draper.

CERTIFICATES—APRIL 19.

W. Bacon, Ewer-street, Southwark, levigator.—J. Hudson, Watling-street, merchant.—G. Milner, Thurlston, and D. Whitaker, Manchester, cotton-manufacturers.—D. Ainsworth, Preston, cotton-spinner.—H. Holmes, Leeds, stationer.—J. White, Birmingham, tailor.—M. Utley, Hollock-Lee, Yorkshire, cotton-manufacturer. —W. C. Thomas, Nicholas-lane, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

Simon Tiver, Bridgewater, inn-keeper, to surrender April 19, 20, May 14, at eleven, at the Talbot Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Parker, Axbridge.

George Stevens, jun. Bedford, grocer, April 9, 16, May 14, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Townsend, Staple's Inn.

George Herron, Bermondsey-street, fellmonger, April 9, at twelve, 16, at ten, May 14, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Heawood, Old City Chambers.

Richard Jefferson and William Dickinson, Kingston-upon-Hull, woollen-drapers, April 12, 14, May 14, at eleven, at the George Inn, Kingston-upon-Hull. Attorney, Mr. Martin, Hull.

Samuel Staniforth, Radford, Nottinghamshire, joiner, April 13, 14, May 14, at eleven, at the Punch-Bowl, Nottingham. Attornies, Messrs. Coldham and Enfield, Nottingham.

Benjamin Wright, Birmingham, factor, April 22, 23, May 14, at twelve, at the Stork Hotel, Birmingham. Attornies, Messrs. Webb and Tyndall, Birmingham.

George Croose, Liver's-Ocle, Herefordshire, dealer in cattle, April 13, 14, May 14, at eleven, at the Maidenhead Inn, Hereford. Attorney, Mr. Allen, Hereford.

Wm. Steel, Brentford, linen-draper, April 9, 16, May 14, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Dawes, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street.

Wm. Cowdery Shawford, Piccadilly, confectioner, April 9, at twelve, 16, May 14, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Field, Richmond-buildings, Soho.

Richard Lardner, Newton-Poppleford, Devon, worsted-spinner, April 5, 19, May 14, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Oakley, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street.

George Machan, Huddersfield, grocer, April 9, 16, May 14, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Battye, Huddersfield.

George Savory, Southwark, victualler, April 9, at eleven, 16, May 14, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. T. Evans, Kennington Cross, Surrey.

George Touse, Kennington Green, underwriter, April 9, at eleven, 12, May 14, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Kearsey, Bishopsgate Within.

Rebecca Smith, Cross-street, Wilderness-row, Middlesex, dealer in oil, April 9, at eleven, 16, at twelve, May 14, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Stratton, Shore-

ditch, and Thomas Farren Hay, Long-acre, [illegible] at twelve, 19, at ten, May 14, at [illegible] Attorney, Mr. Allen, No. 9, Bridge-

Joseph Tunnicliffe, Repton, Derbyshire, draper, April 5, 16, May 14, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Hurst, Lad-lane, London.

Peter Whitehead, Stockport, Chester, cotton merchant, April 11, 18, May 14, at five, at the Palace Inn, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Heslop, Manchester.

Thomas John Roylands, Princes-street, Lambeth, barge-builder, April 9, 16, May 14, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Benton, Union-street, Southwark.

George Elliot, Liverpool, merchant, May 2, 3, 14, at eleven, at the York Hotel, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Williamson, Liverpool.

DIVIDENDS.

April 30, S. and M. Stiles, Dorking, Surrey, plumbers. —April 23. J. Gresham, Lambeth, timber-merchant. April 23, J. Skynn, Stratford, Essex, victualler.—April 23, J. Elliott and J. T. Dagnall, Upper East Smithfield, flax-dressers.—April 25. T. Cooper, Wilbarston, Northampton, draper.—May 12. N. I. and R. Butler, Painswick, Gloucester, clothiers.—April 26. J. Adams, Fore-street, dealer in spirituous liquors.—May 3. W. Irving, Liverpool, liquor-merchant.—April 23. T. Jebb, Wardour-street, Soho, leather-dresser.—May 14. A. Potten, Duke-street, Aldgate, woollen-draper.—May 3. G. Grimes, Great Warner-street, Coldbath-fields, linen-draper.—May 16. W. D. T. and B. Bentham and J. Baikie, Chatham, bankers. April 23. L. Frebont, jun. Fort-street, silk-manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES—APRIL 23.

T. Home, Bishop's Castle, Salop, mercer.—T. Bland, jun. Market Brough Westmorland, wine merchant.—J. Mallalieu, Manchester, dealer.—R. Sharp, Stratford, builder.—Wm. Purbrick, Gloucester, linen-draper. —L. Higginbottom, Manchester, milliner.—S. Headen, Threadneedle-street, Insurance-broker.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

Consols.....64 11/12 | Consols for April.....64 5/8

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:

SUNDAY, APRIL 3.

Such a number of statements from so many quarters tend to confirm the account of the VICTORY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, that the Ministers appear to entertain no doubt of the glorious event. A respectable Banker has received a letter from his brother, an officer of the *Lavinia* frigate, who informs him, that Sir RICHARD STRACHAN, with seven sail of the line and two frigates, had entered Palmas Bay, and challenged the Carthagena squadron to battle by the very summary method of running his own ship close alongside the enemy. This was in the usual fine style of the gallant Admiral, who has been always accustomed to express his contempt of the enemy, however formidable, by giving them as near a neighbourhood of himself as he possibly could. The Carthagena squadron is said to have consisted of nine sail of the line and three frigates, but every one of Sir RICHARD's Captains followed his commanders example, and after a most obstinate conflict of four hours, during which the opposing vessels were within pistol shot of each other, we

are reported to have TAKEN SIX SAIL OF THE LINE and to have sunk or put to flight the others. Sir RICHARD, it is added, together with two Captains and 1500 of our triumphant Sailors fell, like NELSON, in the moment of victory.

To this account, and to another which states the enemy's force to have been twelve sail of the line, it is objected that the Carthagena squadron consisted of only six sail of the line, and that it is not very likely that the Rochefort squadron, which was proceeding immediately for Toulon, had formed a junction with the Spaniards at Majorca. To add to this objection, it must be recollected that when the Carthagena squadron was seen on the 25th of February, it had no more than six sail of the line: but at the same time, it is highly probable that other ships may have joined it since, and there are various other accounts which state almost the same intelligence as the letter from the *Lavinia*. In one of them the Spanish Admiral and the Second in Command, are said to have fallen, with a host of sailors double the number of our own loss.

An enquiry was made at the Admiralty by this Paper at a late hour last night, but the Secretary had received no official account of the victory, and it is impossible to look with any certainty for the intelligence during the present variable state of the winds. At any rate however there can be no doubt of great events in the Mediterranean, and when the character of Sir RICHARD STRACHAN is considered, together with the various confirmations of the battle, there can be little doubt of our victory.

No foreign intelligence has been received respecting Sweden; but the rumours are still unfavourable to that devoted nation. I should not at all be surprised if we were to hear of a land victory gained over our ally at the moment we had beaten the French allies by sea. Our reported naval triumph is in every other respect like that of the glorious NELSON at Trafalgar, and it is a proud reflection to England, that while our enemy can beat our allies only, we are beating his allies and himself too. Sir JAMES SAUMAREZ, in spite of the adverse winds, has sailed for the Baltic.

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Sir SAMUEL HOOD sailed from the Downs for the Baltic on Friday, in the Centaur—the other ships going upon the same destination only wait for pilots.—The force in the Downs is increasing daily; two more seventy-fours and a sixty-four arrived there on Thursday. The Triumph and Implacable passed Portsmouth on Friday—they are all destined for the Baltic.

Accounts have been received that the Seine and L'Italien frigates have entered L'Orient. These are the frigates which carried out troops to Martinique, and which lately made an attempt upon the Convoy of the Sirius, but were frustrated by the skill and gallantry of Capt. PROWSE.

Some of the Papers seem to have fallen into a mistake respecting Mr. NOURSE, who is the bearer of dispatches from the American Government to Mr. PINCKNEY. It has been supposed that Mr. NOURSE is coming in the character of a Negociator, whereas, the fact is, that he is merely the Bearer of the dispatches, and has no diplomatic character. His arrival in this country may be hourly expected.

Advices from Gibraltar, a few days ago, informed us, that an expedition was expected from England to go against Ceuta, a maritime town on the Barbary coast, to prevent it falling into the hands of the French, who, it is understood, have a design upon it. Gen. PREVOST's expedition is intended to co-operate with that under Gen. SPENCER, in an attack to be made upon that place, prior to its proceeding to Halifax, which is its final destination. General PREVOST left England in the Penelope frigate, on the 13th of February, accompanied by the Banterer frigate, and a fleet of transports, having on board the 7th, 8th, 13th, and 22d regiments. The expeditions, it is supposed, will rendezvous at Gibraltar.

We are informed, that the Dutch are actively engaged in all their ports in constructing gun-boats.—Above three hundred are said to be already in a state of readiness.

The following is stated to be the project for the dismemberment of Turkey. It is represented as the substance of the propositions made by M. CAULAINCOURT to the Emperor ALEXANDER:—Russia to receive part of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Bessarabia; Austria to receive Servia, Bosnia, part of Wallachia, and Upper Bulgaria; France to receive Albania, and the whole of Greece, extending from the Adriatic to the Gulph of Salonica, together with Candia and Cyprus; and to receive from Austria, in consideration of the above cessions to that Power, the surrender of Trieste and her other possessions in the Adriatic.

BONAPARTE, according to the German Journals, towards the close of the last year, sent a mission to China overland, announcing to the EMPEROR the recent events in Europe, his intended operations in India, and exhorting him to break off all commercial intercourse with England.

The statement of all the sums of money paid into the Registry of the High Court of Admiralty, as Droits of the Crown, and Droits of Admiralty, is at length printed; and it appears that the whole of the money paid in from the year 1794, to March, 1808, amounts to

As Droits of the Admiralty.....	£.474,325	11	10
As Droits of the Crown.....	1,588,484	10	2
A mixed Account of both, out of which nothing has been paid to Captors	1,051,094	19	2
Making the sum total of all the money paid amount to.....	3,113,905	1	2
Sum total of all the money drawn by the Royal Warrant and otherwise	2,539,337	19	7½
And the balance now remaining is something more than half a million.....	574,067	1	6½

The Danish Prizes are not included in this return.

The Emperor of RUSSIA is grown very corpulent—so that if he is not ALEXANDER the *Great*, he is at least ALEXANDER the *big*.

We have received the following particulars of the negociation between France and Denmark, respecting the equipment of a fleet of French vessels to be manned by Danish sailors: BONAPARTE made the first overtures, and proposed, that the required number of Danish mariners of every rank, from the Admiral to the cabin-boy, for twenty sail of the line, should repair to the several ports of France, and navigate them home; but they were still to remain in the service of France. This, however, was flatly refused, even by the Government of Denmark; and the Danish officers and men openly refused to fight under any other than the Danish flag. Measures were then taken to render the project as little repugnant as possible to the national feelings of the Danes. It was proposed that the vessels should be sold to Denmark, and should proceed from the ports of France to Copenhagen. Under such circumstances, it is highly probable that the treaty will be finally completed.

Private letters by the Gottenburgh Mail state, that a letter had been received by Baron D'ARMFELT from the Russian Minister, Count ROMANZOFF, offering him a bribe of a large sum of money, and an extensive principality, if he would betray his Sovereign, and effect an insurrection of the people in the neighbourhood of Stockholm, in favour of the cause of Russia. It is added, that the Baron, on receiving this letter, immediately laid it before the KING.

The following is the oath to be taken by the new Nobility of France:—

"I swear to be faithful to the Emperor and his dynasty; to be obedient to the constitution, laws, and institutions of the empire; to serve his Majesty as a good, upright, and faithful subject; to educate my children in the same feelings of fidelity and obedience, and to march in defence of my country as soon as its territory shall be threatened, *or as his Majesty shall go to the army.*"

Marshal BRUNE is living now in retirement and disgrace, for misconduct at the close of the last campaign. The Marshal, it will be recollected, took Stralsund after it had been evacuated by the King of SWEDEN, who retreated to the Isle of Rugen, and, soon after, quitted altogether the coast of Pomerania. BONAPARTE cannot pardon, it is said, his General for having regularly besieged the fortress; he ought to have first conquered the island, and when in possession of that, cut off the retreat of the King of SWEDEN, and made him prisoner.

WRETCHED STATE OF IRELAND.—The Hon. Justice DAY, in his charge to the Grand Jury of Tipperary, made the following remarks:—"If the Calendar be the criminal barometer of the bailiwicke,—if the state of the jail be no unfaithful epitome of the condition of the county at large,—then is the state of civil society in your county deplorable in the extreme. I hold in my hand a paper, which for its size and quantity of matter, resembles more the chart of a county than a Calendar of its jail,—an affecting catalogue of 148 of our unfortunate fellow creatures, incarcerated since the last assizes, under charges of the deepest atrocity!—In truth, it is a downright misnomer, a gross abuse and perversion of language, to say that *civil society exists in a country so inundated with crime.*"

The trial of Sir C. HAWKINS, for bribery, has been postponed till the next Cornwall assizes.

The Corporation of Skinners and Glovers of Dublin have entered into resolutions to use their best exertions to procure a Petition from the Corporation of Dublin to Parliament, praying for a repeal of the Act of Union. Other Corporations are preparing to follow the same example.

Last Thursday, in St. James's-square, the Loyal Britons made an appropriate present to their Colonel, Mr. DAVISON, one of the most eminent Patrons of British Painters. It was his Portrait on horseback. Splendour of colour and effect, accuracy of likeness, tastefulness and energy, characterize this highly martial picture from the choice pencil of DAVIS.—The simple, economical, and soldier-like dress of this corps is worthy of the imitation of Volunteers.

In the Court of Chancery, yesterday, application was made to the LORD CHANCELLOR, by Sir SAMUEL ROMILLY, on behalf of Lord ATHLONE, for an order to deliver to his Lordship's care and custody his eldest son, a lunatic. It appeared that the young Nobleman who was the subject of this application had been removed from house to house by his lady, to the exclusion of his own family, who had been denied access to him, and who had no knowledge of his present abode. The object of this application was purely that Lord ATHLONE might render every assistance to his son in his unfortunate state of mind. The Court broke up after Counsel had been heard on one side, and the case stands over till to-morrow.

One of the amusements of 1718 was the juggling exhibition of a Fire-eater, whose name was DE HIGHTREHIGH, a native of the Valley of Annivi, in the Alps. This tremendous person ate burning coals, chewed flaming brimstone, and *swallowed* it; licked a red-hot poker, placed a red-hot heater on his tongue, kindled coals on his tongue, suffered them to be blown, and boiled meat on them; ate melted pitch, brimstone, bees-wax, and rosin, with a spoon; and, to complete the business, he performed all these impossibilities five times *per diem* at the Duke of Marlborough's Head, in Fleet-street, for the trifling receipt of 2s. 6d. 1s. 6d. and 1s. Master HIGHTREHIGHT had the honour of exhibiting before LOUIS XIV. the Emperor of GERMANY, the King of SICILY, the Doge of VENICE, and an infinite number of Princes and Nobles.

The notorious *Harry Woodford* was on Friday committed as a rogue and vagabond. He was taken in the Strand, where, with other pickpockets, he was hustling the passengers in a crowd occasioned by a funeral procession.

A very seasonable supply of coals has just arrived in the River, which has reduced the price considerably. The chaldron has been lately sold at the enormous *sum* of five guineas!

The Deputation last Wednesday, united with Alderman BIRCH in presenting the KING with *a Puff.*

It is not a little curious to hear Aldermen boasting of an *unimpaired Constitution!*

The victorious NAPOLEON has planted fields of laurel, but the *Palm* of honour dies under his hand.

A Provincial Print having announced the death of a farmer, added, that his pulse *rose* and *fell* with the fluctuation of the price of grain in Mark-lane.

Some of the Members of the Upper House were much alarmed, when they heard that in the construction of the new Bridge it was meant to make use of *wooden piers*.

Amiable Specimen of Connoisseurship.—When one of the Moorish Emperors was shewn by an artist a picture representing JOHN the BAPTIST's head in a charger, his MAJESTY observed, that it was exceedingly well done, but that the skin round the edge of the throat ought to be more shrunk, as it always drew back from the effects of decapitation. The artist bowed to his MAJESTY's experience, and altered it to the Imperial taste.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 14.

MR. KENNY'S NEW COMEDY OF THE WORLD. IT'S BEAUTIES AND EXCELLENT PROMISE. THE TRUE STYLE OF COMEDY AND REPRESENTATION OF THE NEW PIECE. A WRETCHED AFTERPIECE BY MR. T. DIBDIN.

DRURY-LANE.

I cannot but congratulate the town on Mr. KENNY's new comedy of the *World*, which was produced last Thursday. There always appeared to me in this young writer an original spirit, prophetic of better times to the drama, and though he descended in his opera of *False Alarms* to the level of the other modern dramatists, he seems in his present play to have arisen to his proper superiority with a rapidity strengthened by self-indignation.

PERSONS OF THE DRAMA.

Withers ..... *Mr. WROUGHTON.*
Echo ..... — *BANNISTER.*
Busy ..... — *MATHEWS.*
Cheviot ..... — *ELLISTON.*
Dauntless ..... — *R. PALMER.*
Loiter ..... — *DE CAMP.*
Lady Bloomfield ..... *Mrs. JORDAN.*
Mrs. Barclay ..... *Mrs. POWELL.*
Elinor Barclay ..... *Miss BOYCE.*

I will not deprive my readers of their amusement by detailing the plot. The great interest of the story arises from the life and opinions of *Cheviot*, a young foundling, who disdaining the petty habits of a merchant with whom he had been placed, and thinking himself fettered and oppressed by the advice of those who have interested themselves in his welfare, suddenly commences author in all the lofty penury of neglected genius. It is true that the misfortunes of indigent authorship have been drawn by various writers, particularly by SMOLLETT in his character of *Melopoyn* in *Roderick Random*, but Mr. KENNY has given them a new interest by connecting the poverty and the eccentricities of his *Cheviot* with the other characters of the play; he has rendered his poor poet socially virtuous and socially useful, he has elevated the natural melancholy of genius by abstracting it from the effects of vicious habit, and has given a natural air to it's romantic generosity by selecting the most delicate objects for it's exertion. I was at first inclined to quarrel with the impatient admiration which *Cheviot* indulges for the memory of SAVAGE, but perhaps it was a proper mode of exhibiting not only the poet's want of judgment, but that passionate sympathy which arises from resemblance of misfortune. Dr. JOHNSON, the friend of SAVAGE and his companion in wretchedness, has represented him as an excellent poet and an amiable man, but nature had not made him the one and his execrable mother had helped to prevent his being the other. He may be characterised perhaps as a poet a little below CHURCHILL, and as a man whoses vices and misfortunes rendered him equally despicable and pitiable.

The characters of *Loiter* and *Dauntless* seem to have been intended by Mr. KENNY to draw over by degrees the admirers of the modern drama to his attempt at dramatic reformation. They are of that different description of fashionable fools which is too often confounded, the beau and the blood; *Loiter* is a beau, and therefore is just something more than a woman; *Dauntless* is a blood, and therefore pretends to be something more than man; and certainly one may easily allow them to be neither man nor woman. Nothing new was to be produced from such characters but by putting them in new situations: *Echo*, a good-hearted young man, who is induced to imitate these simpletons, is at length disgusted by their folly, and his first wish of reformation arises from their wanton ridicule of a virtuous girl whom he loves: Mr. KENNY has heightened the feeling and effect of this idea by rendering it triumphant over the jollity and intoxication of a tavern-dinner.

The incidents are managed with great mastery of stage effect, and the language is superior to any comic dialogue since the dramatic days of SHERIDAN and CUMBERLAND. It is principally in the satirical observations of *Cheviot* that Mr. KENNY seems to have aimed at the revival of true comedy. For punning he has shewn his contempt by confining it to the mouth of a drunken man who wishes to shine in drunken company. In the dramas of DIBDIN and REYNOLDS there is nothing like regular composition: and in fact, true style and true genius are so inseparable, that no feeble mind has ever boasted a striking excellence of writing: mere grammar will do very little, and even in grammar these men are deficient. The dialogue of the superior characters in comedy should be similar to their behaviour: it should possess familiarity, but still have the air of self-respect, it's easiness should appear the result of social complacency rather than of mere indifference, and it's correctness the result of good habits rather than of immediate study. Mr. KENNY has well considered this indispensable qualification of good writing, and it is pleasant to observe, how instantly a dramatist might dart above the heads of his present rivals by the attainment of one single requisite of composition. There is indeed more strength than beauty in Mr. KENNY's expressions, but his best sentences are spoken by a young man full of ardent feeling. Wherever there is polish, there is always some degree of art. In his more sedate speeches, where the thoughts have leisure to regulate their own progress, there is much elegance as well as force of style, and he has studied with very promising success that forcible compactness of expression which gives singleness of effect to a variety

of thoughts, as the burning-glass directs the rays of the sun with a strength proportionate to their concentration.

The new Comedy was very spiritedly and naturally represented, with the exception of Mrs. JORDAN's performance, which was much more spirited indeed than natural. That excellent actress seems to be entirely made for the expression of pure feeling, and though ladies may feel quite as strongly as gentlemen, yet the whole secret of that peculiar refinement which we expect in a well-educated female consists in nothing but a proper mixture of delicate feeling and delicate reserve. A proper and no more than a proper restraint is in fact the grand secret of that indescribable something, which always breathes so enchanting an atmosphere round the appearance of gentility. BANNISTER's character of *Echo* was perfectly suited to his admirable combination of humour and feeling. Nothing could shew his command of this union to greater advantage, than his sudden touch of the pathetic in the very midst of intoxication. This was the triumph of refined feeling over vulgarity of manner. Mr. ELLISTON however in *Cheviot* was the great interest of the performance. The ardour of genius and the familiar yet elegant manners of the true gentleman, require a master both of the internal as well as external requisites of fine acting, and Mr. ELLISTON displays his mastery with all the easy spirit of habitual skill. In his soliloquy to the bank note, which in the midst of his poverty he is about to give away, he exhibited all that natural dryness of humour which I have so often remarked as his peculiar excellence.

It is to be sincerely hoped, and I think sincerely trusted, that Mr. KENNY will still keep himself at his proper elevation above the dramatists of the day. He has now written to the sense, and not merely to the senses of his audience, and if he can really revive a taste for true comedy, I am sure it is too enviable a piece of good fortune to be resisted by a young man of so promising a genius.

COVENT-GARDEN.

A mock Melo-drama, with three or four names to it, was produced at this theatre on Thursday after the *Man of the World*. It is too contemptible for criticism. The piece is said to be imitated from the idea of a French dramatist, and is intended to ridicule the prevailing fondness for melo-dramas and all their pompous nothings. I am afraid the melo-dramas will gain fresh honour from their present opponent. Mr. DIBDIN has long been one of the most ridiculous writers living, and now he must take upon him to ridicule others. A writer of mock-heroic should have a correct taste for the true heroic, or he will not know how to produce the proper contrast between his subject and it's style. But the great fault of this new farrago, which professes entire burlesque, is an unaccountable propensity to grave common place upon grave common subjects: and when there is an attempt at mockery, the persons of the drama seem to be doing it for their own amusement. Yet although this miserable nonsense was completely damned, the bills have the effrontery to tell us that it was received with universal and continual applause. I will not waste my time upon the subject now, but if the piece continues throughout the week, I will do my best to hold it up to the contempt and indignation of the public.

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THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—The inventive faculties of Mr. D'EGVILLE have been again called forth in the new ballet of *Le Marriage Secret, ou, les Habitants du Chene.* This gentleman seems averse to producing any thing consistent with probability; it is for this reason, I suppose, that he gives us a *pas deux* between a young lady and a flower pot, and then endeavours to surprise us with the inhabitants of an oak tree. Instead of peopling this tree with birds and four-legged animals, who might naturally be supposed to reside in it, he has made the interior of the trunk the residence of human beings: two young villagers privately married without the consent of their parents employ it as a nursery for their children. This wonderful tree, which a naturalist would place in the class of Zoophytes, seems purposely made for the incident upon the novelty of which Mr. D'EGVILLE has relied for the success of the piece; though flourishing in the richest verdure, the trunk is hollowed out, and the side opens with folding doors to admit its inhabitants. This Mr. D'EGVILLE calls pastoral life, but he should remember that real oak trees are not made by so accommodating a mechanist as Mr. CABANEL. The scene, if I may judge from the dresses, is laid in no particular country, but from a happy mixture of costume is adapted as much to one nation as to another. In this respect he seems to have borrowed a hint from a senseless author of foppish notoriety, who professes not to lay his scene in any fixed spot, that he may avoid being accused of ignorance of the manners, and, what it is more remarkable he should be ignorant of, the dress of particular nations. The plot of the piece abounds with absurdities, and is better adapted to the gratification of the spectators at the Olympic Pavilion, than to the more refined spectators at the Opera House.

The dancing is the part of the ballet in which Mr. D'EGVILLE's talents appear to the greatest advantage. There is much fancy displayed in the beautiful waltz in the first act, which is executed by M. and Madame DESHAYES and Miss CRANFIELD, with more ease and grace than I ever saw exhibited in this singular but amusing art. Miss GAYTON improves very rapidly, and has not yet lost that modesty which charms more than all the elegance and refinement of her performance; a merit seldom met with on the stage, and still less among dancers than any other kind of players. In this ballet as well as every other production of Mr. D'EGVILLE, the audience are annoyed with the perpetual introduction of his pupils, who are continually flitting before the eyes, and labouring by rouged faces, ghastly grins, and languishing attitudes, to compel admiration, while they only excite disgust or pity. These girls are the unfortunate victims to the avarice and vanity of their deluded parents, who think they are laying the way for the prosperity of their daughters, while they are endangering their future virtue and happiness. The delusion will be discovered when it is too late, and they will discover that it would be better to educate their children for honest labour, than to convert them into sea nymphs or cupids.

The music of the ballet is by FIORILLE, and abounds with pleasing airs and rich harmony, but it is certainly not equal to his former production, the music of *Le Siege de Troye*, which possessed a bold originality and heroic grandeur admirably suited to this subject. In the present composition he descends too much into what is called *pretty* music, a term implying a negative praise, like the word *respectable* when applied to acting. The music throughout the cottage scene in the second act is the best

but the whole does great credit to his musical talents, which will rank him very high in the scale of modern composers.

H. R.

THE ORATORIOS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—None of your Correspondents (many of whom must be much better qualified than I can be) having taken up the subject of ORATORIOS, I beg leave to offer a few observations upon this species of entertainment during the fish-eating season.

Notwithstanding the amiable condescension of many of the diurnal Prints, in announcing the full Houses and numerous audiences at the Oratorios in Covent-garden Theatre, the fact is, that Mr. ASHLEY's laudable exertions, for the entertainment of the Public in this department of amusement during Lent, have not for several years met with the encouragement which they so well deserve, and I sincerely hope that he will before Easter have more cause, than at present, to express his satisfaction at the countenance of the Public, and better reason to thank some of the principal singers for their support.

I have not been a sufficiently attentive observer of the sacred music performed at the Theatres for the last twenty years, to speak precisely of what has been the state of musical supply; but from the little I have observed, I may venture to say, that we have been infinitely better supplied with singers than we are at present. I know not whether this proceeds from a want of due encouragement, or from some other cause; but fear that it may in some measure be ascribed to that false taste which has been introduced by BRAHAM and others, who want to persuade us that music, which is difficult of execution to the performer, is more pleasing, and entitled to more attention than that which interests the feelings and delights the heart; and that a few unconnected, unmeaning shakes and swells, are true melody. It is not denied that BRAHAM's tones are fine, [so are those of a good flute,] but either he is not properly qualified to do justice to sublime music, or he does not chuse to manage his voice with its best effect. Celebrated performers should not trifle with that Public by whom they are cherished and supported; if they do so, they risk a more firm and decided reprobation than those of an inferior class who do their best. It has been said of this "sweet singer of Israel," that he can sing well such songs only as are of his own composition, (I should have said *his own selection*, for it has been asserted that the airs said to have been composed by him are all old.) If this be the case, his incapacity to do justice to the compositions of the immortal HANDEL is accounted for. A host of Hebrews will not relish these observations, but every true lover of melody will agree with me when I assert, that a French-horn-like swell, and an outrageous shake, may astonish and extort a bravo, but can never in an English audience produce that lasting delight which is excited by a well-arranged, unambitious, simple air. The greatest dramatic author of this age, whose wit alone would have secured the success of his theatrical productions, has most judiciously, in his musical pieces, adapted the words to old popular airs, instead of allowing his language to be swelled, shaked, and fiddledeedee'd into unintelligibility by some modern importer of obsolete foreign music, which some forty or fifty years since was, on the first hearing, condemned abroad as being unworthy of repetition.

Mr. BELLAMY's manly, deep toned voice, seems to become more mellow by practice—he pleases the feeling auditor, although he does not surprise so much as BRAHAM. Some of DOYLE's tones excite better expectations than his execution altogether realizes. I think he would sing better if he did not so studiously and determinedly thrust his chin under his neckcloth—this not only gives him a stiff appearance, but compresses and confines his throat so as sometimes to produce sounds, which, were I in a wood, I should think were uttered by some "tenant of the forest" suffering the pains of strangulation.

Among the females Mrs. DICKONS is certainly entitled to the pre-eminence. She wants only practice and study to make her a first-rate singer, and if she preserves her good conduct in domestic society, she will the more rapidly improve in favour with the public, whose gratifications (in spite of the pernicious attempts that have been made to separate altogether the public from the private character of the same individual) will always be increased, under the consideration of their being received through a pure channel.

Mrs. BLAND has been so long and so deservedly a favourite, that it is unnecessary to say more than that she warbles, as usual, sweetly and unaffectedly:—but the same cannot be said of Madame DUSSEK, whose tones, if ever they were otherwise, are now very insipid and inanimate. There seems in her manner to be a total want either of energy or of exertion, so that she uniformly fails in producing any thing like effect. In singing she may be compared to a person, who, in an attempt to leap across a pond, jumps into the middle of it. Her notes are so drawlingly and affectedly uttered, that you may suppose she is going to languish into a most interesting fainting fit. Madame DUSSEK should avoid the singularity of so often shutting her lips during the choruses—it would be more decorous and respectful to the audience to have at least the appearance of taking a part in them. In the first two weeks of the Oratorios she injudiciously injured her singing by holding the music close to her face—during the last week however she omitted this impropriety, and looked about her apparently with less restraint. After all, she has a sweet voice, and fails in doing it justice either from affectation, carlessness, or conceit, perhaps from the whole of these disqualifications combined. I should apprehend that her singing is more suited to a room than a theatre.

Miss BOLTON's voice is sweet, but it wants strength and firmness. These however it may in time acquire.

Should these observations be thought worthy of notice, you may hear again from yours,

March 26, 1808. DIATONICUS.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

On Wednesday his MAJESTY arrived at the Queen's Palace from Windsor. At two o'clock a Deputation from the Corporation of the City of London, arrived with the following Address:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

THE HUMBLE AND DUTIFUL ADDRESS OF THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COMMONS OF THE CITY OF LONDON, IN COMMON COUNCIL ASSEMBLED.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, humbly approach the Throne, with renewed assurances of our unshaken attachment to your Majesty's sacred person and Government.

Your Majesty's faithful Citizens of London are truly sensible of the blessings which the people of this country enjoy in a *peculiar* manner; for while it has pleased the Almighty to permit the overthrow of many nations of Europe, we have the happiness yet to possess *unimpaired* our glorious Constitution, to be governed by the mildest and most benevolent of Sovereigns, and to be protected by good and wholesome laws, wisely administered. To obtain these blessings our forefathers freely shed their blood; they are placed in our hands as a precious pledge, and we fondly hope that our children's children may enjoy the same to the latest period of time.

We are not unmindful, Sire, that by the preponderating influence of the Government of France, almost every State upon the Continent has been compelled to unite in forming one vast gigantic confederacy, whose efforts are solely directed to bring destruction on your Majesty's dominions.

We view this combination without dread, firmly relying upon a continuation of the Divine protection; upon union amongst all ranks of your people; THE EXTINCTION of PARTY SPIRIT (most essentially necessary at this very important crisis); upon the goodness of our cause; the valour and skill of your Majesty's Fleets and Armies; and on the vigour, firmness, and wisdom, of your Majesty's Councils.

With these aids we doubt not your Majesty will confound and defeat the designs of our inveterate enemy, and in due time be enabled to conclude a peace, at once honourable, secure, and lasting.

(Signed by order of Court,) H. WOODTHORPE.

To which Address his MAJESTY was pleased to return the following most gracious Answer:—

I thank you for your very loyal and dutiful Address.

The assurances I receive of your unshaken attachment to my person and Government, afford me the greatest satisfaction.

The example you have given to all ranks and descriptions of my people, of union and public spirit, at this important crisis, cannot but produce the most beneficial consequences, in enabling me to resist effectually the powerful and extensive confederacy which the enemy has directed against my dominions, and ultimately to accomplish the great object of all my efforts—a secure and lasting peace.

The Deputation was received very graciously, and had the honour to kiss his MAJESTY's hand.

After which his MAJESTY was pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood on RICHARD PHILLIPS, Bookseller, one of the Sheriffs.

After which his MAJESTY held a private Levee, at which the following, among others, had the honour of being presented:—

Judge Lawrence, upon being appointed a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, in the room of Judge Rook, deceased.

Admiral Sir J. Saumarez, upon his being appointed to a command.

Capt. Hope, upon his being appointed First Captain to Admiral Sir J. Saumarez.

Viscount Lake, upon coming to his title. And

Lord Redesdale, upon his being appointed a Lord of Trade.

His MAJESTY then held a Privy Council, and gave audiences to the Cabinet Ministers, and the Judge Advocate, who presented the proceedings of a Court Martial; and soon after six o'clock his MAJESTY set off to Windsor.

The Princess CHARLOTTE of WALES is confined with the measles, but we understand that her Royal Highness is in a fair way of doing well.

As there is no Danish Ambassador at our Court now resident in England, we understand that a Court Mourning for the late King of DENMARK will be dispensed with.

FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

Coats and mantles are now invariably composed of shaded, and figured brocade sarsenets, and Chinese silks. The colours so various as to render it difficult to say what is most prevalent. American, or spring green, stone colour, shaded purple, violet, and silver grey, are most eminent. They are still formed with French gores, sitting close to the figure; plain and unconfined in the back. Those of the newest construction are styled a Polanese coat and vest—and are what is commonly termed a three quartered length. The long pelisse is worn quite loose, and is wrapped round the figure in unstudied negligence. Their most fashionable trimming is the tufted fringe, or the large link trimming, formed of the same material as the coat, with village bonnets to correspond.—A new spring habit consists of a round robe of double sarsenet; its colour a silver brown, formed with a plain long sleeve, of easy fullness, and cut a walking length, sitting high round the neck, and close to the bust. It laces behind, and is ornamented with frogs of the same colour, on each side of the bosom *à-la-militaire*. Round the edge of the throat is placed an antique lace, with cuffs of the same. A loose Capuchin cloak converts this habit into the carriage or walking costume. A deep collar, shaped to sit close under the chin; where it is finished with a scolloped lace in double plaits and unites in front of the throat with a large shell broach of oriental pearl. A wove border of a shell pattern in brocade suiting with the shade of the sarsenet, and a slouch hat of plain split straw, of the finest texture, with a Brussels lace veil, reaching a little below the chin, complete this chaste and superior habit. Rich French silk scarfs, cassimere, and Angola shawls, with opera mantles of white satin, trimmed with Angola fringe, rank high amidst the fashionable variety.

Straw hats of divers forms are now offered as an appropriate spring covering; those of the small Yeoman form, with the slouch and fancy gypsy, are considered at present most genteel. They are sometimes ornamented with wreaths of spring flowers. Sarsenet bonnets, corresponding with the coat or mantle, appear on females of unquestionable taste and celebrity. These bonnets are cut so as to display the ears, and sit close to the roots of the hair behind. In full dress the hair still preserves the antique style, ornamented with *chapeaus de fleurs*—and the Anne Boleyn cap of black lace, tamboured in shaded green silk, or chenille. Coronets of gold fillagree, formed in a cluster of shells, and fastened behind with the Persian pin, shine most conspicuously in a drawing room diversity. The Brazillian coif of bright amber tissue, wrought in small checks of silver, and ornamented with large cut silver beads, is an head-dress at once *unique* and splendid.

The twisted necklace of pearls, beads, and gold, blended in tasteful contrast, are much in esteem; we have seen some of purple beads linked or twisted with gold, some of garnets, and others of the emerald shade. Maltese amulets are more general than ever. The most fashionable construction for gowns is, high in the back, with antique ruffs of fine scolloped lace. Trains are again become visible in full dress, but are still of the moderate order; and the long sleeve, set in from the shoulder, also forms a part of this costume. But we observe many females to whom nature has given an arm fair and beautifully moulded, still persevere in the short sleeve, which best displays them to advantage.

The most fashionable colours for the season are pale olive, stone colour, American, or spring green, and jonquille. Sarnets of agreeably contrasted shades will, it is thought, be much in request during the summer season.

CITY.

On Thursday a Court of Common Council was held in the Council Room, at Guildhall, which was very numerously attended.

The LORD MAYOR informed the Court, that he had waited on his Majesty with the Address of that Court, to which his Majesty had been pleased to return a most gracious Answer, which was ordered to be entered on the Journals.

OFFICES IN REVERSION BILL.

Mr. WAITHMAN said, that in bringing forward this sub-

ject, he felt that he was actuated by a wish to check abuses in whatever quarter they originated. He was sorry to observe, that a worthy Gentleman, on the other side, who had informed the Court that they now enjoyed the Constitution in its *utmost purity*, was not now present, as he was about to throw out some observations which might go rather to call in question this assertion. In doing so, he should have occasion to refer to certain documents, which would appear on the Journals of the Court, and even to request that some of them should be read. Towards the end of the American war, when this country was labouring under a pressure of difficulties, originating, however, as at present, in a profuse and lavish expenditure of the public money, that Court had taken a decided and becoming part. That our Constitution was not so perfect as some Gentlemen represented, he should shew from good authority. Sir W. Blackstone, in his Commentaries, pointed out, as excessive, the influence of the Crown, arising from the patronage of the excise, customs, stamps, &c.; from the public expenditure, then only about 14 millions, and from the immense sum of seven millions necessary to pay the interest of the public debt. What, however, must it now be esteemed, when our expenditure was 60, 70, or even 80 millions, and our debt was from 100 to 140 millions more than it was at the time alluded to? Montesquieu had expressed his opinion, that the Constitution of England would perish—"Have not Rome, Sparta and Carthage perished? It, too, must perish, whenever the Legislative Power becomes more corrupted than the Executive." Mr. Hume had said, "Either the nation must destroy public credit, or public credit would destroy the nation." These were propheeies which called aloud for public vigilance and attention. We saw one family possessed of sinecure places, as was said, to the amount of 81,000l.—*(Name, name, called from several parts of the room.)*—The Grenville family. The Duke of Portland had offices to the amount of 28,000l. a-year; and Lord Arden to the amount of 32,000l. 21,000l. of which in reversion to his brother, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer. This last mentioned Gentleman was also a Chancellor of the Dutchy of Cornwall; but with it, in addition to his sinecures, he could not be satisfied, unless he received the Dutchy of Cornwall for life. Lord Redesdale, his brother-in-law, had a pension of 4000l. per annum, and these Noble Lords, Arden and Redesdale, the brother and brother-in-law of the Minister, in conjunction with Lord Melville, were the opposers in the House of Lords of this Bill for the preventing the granting of Offices in Reversion!! There was also a Noble Lord possessed, it was said, of an income of 30,000l. a-year (the Earl of Uxbridge) who had allowed his daughters to accept of a pension of 800l. and was mean enough even to allow her to return it, at the disgrace of its being notified in the newspapers! Would any man tell him that such persons were not corrupt? If Gentlemen looked at the Civil List, they would find it greatly increased. Mr. Burke had brought in a Bill to regulate it; and Lord Melville one to regulate the Office of Treasurer of the Navy. These Acts, however, carried no punishment along with them—the very framer of the Act could, with impunity, break down its bounds, and nothing could reach him. If a person liable to pay any tax, through inadvertency, seemed to be defrauding the Government out of a guinea, he was punished by a surcharge. Yet where persons in more exalted rank violated their duty by defrauding the country out of 20,000l. or 30,000l. at least by misapplying such sums, they were allowed to cheat with impunity;—an outcry was made for a moment—they were even dismissed from his Majesty's Councils. But soon the outcry would cease—the offence would be forgotten—the culprit would escape punishment—and would *finally be received again into favour, and restored to place, and to the power of once more betraying the Public.* By the existence of such a system had the Bill now in question been defeated, at a time too when every person concurred in agreeing that every means of economy on the part of Government was necessary to satisfy the people. Mr. Waithman proceeded to quote the opinions of Mr. Burke, Mr. Pitt, the late Duke of Bedford, and Lord Grenville, in support of the doctrine of economy in the public expenditure, a deficiency in which had been the chief cause of the Revolution in France. He asked, if it was possible that men should be found willing to give large sums of money for seats in Parliament, to the sacrifice of their own health, and to sit up all night, submitting to every drudgery which Ministers chose to impose upon them, if they did not expect to receive some recompence?

The Resolutions moved in the Lords in December, 1779, with the unanimous vote of thanks of the Common Council to the 32 Peers, who formed the minority on these occasions, and also the letter received in return from the Duke of Portland, one of that minority, were then read. The answer of his Grace states, that he had long considered the enormous and increasing influence of the Crown as one of the greatest calamities the country had to endure; that his mind had long been directed to the consideration of checking so growing an evil, and that the Court might rely on his best exertions in so constitutional an endeavour.—Mr. Waithman continued, if such were the sentiments of the Noble Duke at that period, what must they be now, when there was so much more necessity for the declaration of them, and when he must have found himself at the head of an Administration which was not able to carry into effect a measure for giving even a partial check to this influence? Did not the fate of the Bill in question make good the observation of that great man (Mr. Fox), that King Charles the First imposed taxes without the consent of Parliament, which was a grievous infringement of the liberty of the subject: But, if the Crown could once make Parliament subservient to its views, things would then be in a worse situation than when taxes were imposed without Parliaments at all. Instead of being the guardians of the people, the meetings of Parliament must in that event be considered as the greatest of evils, as being calculated only to add to the public burdens. He concluded by moving—"That Petitions be presented to both Houses of Parliament, expressing our regret that the Bill for preventing the granting of Places in Reversion (which we regard as the first step towards a reformation of existing abuses) should have been frustrated, and praying that measures may be adopted for carrying so necessary and beneficial a Bill into effect; and also for causing inquiries to be made into the receipt, management, and expenditure of the public money, and adopting such measures as may effectually guard against such abuses in future, as well for abolishing all unnecessary places and pensions, as a means of consolidating the strength of the empire, and calling forth the united energies and exertions of the people."

Mr. Deputy Goodbehere seconded the motion.

Mr. Sheriff Smith could not allow this question to pass with a silent vote. In recommending what was now proposed, the Court did nothing more than what the King himself had recommended—Economy.

Alderman Sir R. Carr Glyn agreed in the propriety of the motion, though he must dissent from some of the principles laid down by the worthy mover. He agreed in thinking that the power of granting Reversions had been unwisely and unwarrantably used, and that it was better to have those offices in possession than in reversion.

Mr. Quin considered the present Bill as giving to the Crown an amplitude of donation, of which it had often been deprived by the improvident and prodigal grants of Ministers. His Majesty could not be well qualified to judge of the fitness of any man for a situation to which he had been appointed 30 or 40 years before. He was unwilling to see officers of state like *Sir Francis Wronghead's* state livery suit, fit for every weater. He wished

the man to be fit for the office, not the office to be fitted to the man.

Mr. S. DIXON thought there could not be two opinions on the present question, which he supported, independent of any of the grounds stated by the worthy mover.

Mr. WAITHMAN, in reply, contended, that we had already seen one branch of the Legislative Body more corrupted than the Executive, and that, therefore, we ought to be on our guard against the prophecy of Montesquieu. The King recommended a perseverance in economical measures—the House of Lords knocked in the head the first measures of the kind which was submitted to them.

The motion was unanimously agreed to, and a Committee appointed to withdraw and prepare the same, and being returned, the Petitions were read and agreed to, and ordered to be presented by the Sheriffs, attended by the Remembrancer.

Mr. WM. HOWELL was elected by ballot to the office of Water-bailiff, in the room of HENRY SHEPHERD, Esq. deceased.

PETITION.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED:

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COMMONS OF THE CITY OF LONDON, IN COMMON COUNCIL ASSEMBLED,

SHEWETH,

That your Petitioners have during a long course of public events, productive of so many calamities, patiently submitted to unexampled burthens, and are still ready to make such further sacrifices as may be necessary for maintaining the honour and independence of the realm.

That these burthens have been considerably augmented by gross abuses in the management and expenditure of the public money, and by a profusion of sinecure places and pensions, which have not only greatly added to the sufferings of the people, but created pernicious and dangerous influence, corrupting and undermining the pure and free principles of the British Constitution.

That after the enormous abuses brought to light by the various Commissions of Inquiry, it is a matter of deep concern to your Petitioners, that the offenders thereby discovered have not been brought to justice, and those who so grossly misapplied the public money, have hitherto escaped with impunity. Your Petitioners did therefore rely upon Parliament, that speedy and effectual measures would have been adopted to reform such abuses, and detect and punish the offenders in future.

That your Petitioners viewed with much satisfaction the formation of a Committee of Finance, and hailed the introduction into your Honourable House of a Bill to prevent the granting of Places in Reversion, as the first step towards these salutary reformations. They beheld with increased satisfaction the measures taken by your Honourable House, both during the late and present Session of Parliament, to carry the same into effect.

That it was with grief and disappointment they observed the views and intentions of your Honourable House unhappily frustrated, and they have too much reason to apprehend that the defeat of this measure has arisen from that baneful and predominating influence, which such abuses must necessarily create, and which this Bill was intended to correct.

That it appears to your Petitioners at all times essential that rigid economy should be observed in the expenditure of the public money; and that no Places or Pensions should be bestowed, but for real public service; more particularly so at the present moment, when it is declared—"*That this Country is at the very crisis of its fate,*" and the people are called upon for such unexampled sacrifices and exertions. They beg further to suggest to your Honourable House the serious consequences likely to result should a disposition be evinced, by either branch of the Legislature, at a period so awful and momentuous, not to participate with the people in their dangers, sacrifices, and privations.

They therefore pray your Honourable House not to relax in your endeavours in carrying so beneficial a measure into effect, and causing inquiries to be made into the receipt, management, and expenditure of the public money; adopting measures which may effectually guard against such abuses in future; and for abolishing all unnecessary Places and Pensions, as well in reversion as otherwise, as the best means of consolidating the strength of the Empire, and calling forth the united energies and exertions of the people, at a time so necessary for the safety and security of his Majesty's dominions.

MISCELLANEOUS SKETCHES

UPON TEMPORARY SUBJECTS, &c.

EXTRAORDINARY VISIT TO THE FRENCH EMPEROR.

It was on the 12th of last month, and about six o'clock in the evening, when a very ugly personage whom none of the officers recollected to have seen, walked very composedly through the imperial antichamber towards his Majesty's sitting room. His face was excessively scarred, his eyes sunken and piercing, his body thin and wasted but his hands amazingly large, and he trod with a step of alarming weight. Some of the gentlemen were about to oppose this unceremonious visit, but whenever any of them approached him he would stop and look full in their eyes, at which unaccountable attitude they could not help turning pale, their voices faultered and their hands dropped, and they saw with powerless consternation the imperial door close after him.

The Emperor was sitting with Talleyrand over some papers, and neither he nor his Minister knew they had a visitor till the ugly personage seated himself with a dead weight upon a chair between them. They both looked up, and started violently back, and the Emperor exclaimed, in his hurried way, "Who are you? Who—what—where do you come from?" The unknown shook his head with a melancholy severity: he made the sign of the cross to the ex-bishop Talleyrand, whose hideous jaws chattered up and down like a mandarin's on a mantle-piece, and assuming a bitter smile, said, in a deep hollow voice, "Do neither of you know me?"

Napoleon recovered himself: he seemed to disdain any reply, but nevertheless he answered with a stern retort of frown, "I think I have seen you when I was young, perhaps too a little while after the execution of that fool Palm: but my memory does not retain your person with any distinctness, and why should it be retained?"

The ugly gentleman made no reply. He turned to the Prince of Benevento, and looked with an air of satirical enquiry.

"I—I—think," said the Minister," I think, I—a—but positively—yes—I believe I did—I did see some such looking person the—the—the day before I was consecrated Bishop of Autun."

"My name," said the figure, with a sigh, "is *Conscience.*"

The Emperor and his Minister looked at each other with a mixture of surprise and inquiry. "Now I recollect," said Talleyrand, recovering himself, "I met this presumptuous fellow on the road to Holland: I am persuaded he is a wizard and ought to be burnt. I always thought so when I was a Bishop. He insisted on having a lift in my carriage, and none of my retinue dared to resist him, his face was so hideous."—The visitor took out a pocket-glass, and offered it to the Prince:—"The Devil!" cried Talleyrand. "No," said the visitor, "it's only yourself. The bad passions of your Serene Highness have rendered you as ugly as the Devil; but it is the bad passions of others that have scarred my face and made it so alarming." The strange being looked still more melancholy, and the sunshine seemed to withdraw from the room as he spoke. "As to my visit here," continued he, "the high destiny has decreed it. I must return for a while to the nobler world from which I descended, and I knew where my death was to be found. Yes; I am to die by the hand of the most bloodthirsty of men, for so it is written in the everlasting book of Fate, whose leaves are of the solid thunder and whose pen of the substantial lightning."

Napoleon is a man of few words. He instantly drew his sword and ran it through the bosom of his unwelcome guest, who in a most awful tone of voice had just strength to utter, as he died, "I shall see you again on your death-bed."

Napoleon smiled with a face of uneasy sarcasm, and after feeling the point of his sword, which had grown sharper by it's work, returned it into the sheath. The next thing to be considered was the disposal of the dead body, which the Emperor and his Minister soon lifted upon the fire. A number of loose papers quickly roused up the flames; Napoleon thrust in his twisted maps of Switzerland, Holland, Portugal, and Spain, together with Palm's libel, a portrait of the Duke D'Enghien, and Rousseau's Treatise on the Social Compact: and in the mean time the Ex-bishop went to his master's library to fetch all the sermons and bibles on which he could lay his hands; but as unluckily there were none to be found, he contented himself with bringing away all the works in praise of the British constitution. In five minutes, not an atom of the body was to be seen.

"August Sire!" exclaimed the enraptured Minister:—"Fortune be praised, we are now free from *Conscience*."

"Yes," replied the Emperor with meditative energy, "the destiny of the Great Nation is everlastingly fixed. The father of his people is at length void of *Conscience!*"

It was soon whispered about the palace that there had been a little affair in the imperial study, that is, that a man had been killed: but the next day it was confidently believed all over Paris, that the Emperor had killed the Devil. This however was publicly contradicted by the *Moniteur* in a very serious manner, and the people were told that it was not the Devil, but an English Milord named *Conscience*, who under pretence of deserting from the British army at Copenhagen, had attempted to assassinate the great Napoleon.

"No matter!" said every body, with a shrug, "it's all the same, if it was an Englishman."

☞

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

"But now no longer heedless we refuse
"The proffered garland of the Graphic Muse:
"Britannia binds her laurell'd brow once more
"And adds the only wreath unwon before."—SHEE.

29. *Hylas and Naiads.*—A graceful, playful and poetic group. It is a rich ruby in this jewellery of art, and would alone prove Mr. Howard worthy of the high honour he has just obtained in the Royal Academy.

169. *View near Southend*, by Sir W. BEECHEY, is as barren of merit as the sea-shore it pourtrays is of beauty; and his *View of Leigh* is a school-boy production. The *View of Southend*, 202, is an attempt to exhibit the splendor of a moon which "turns its silver lining on the night," but it is not like that lining which is wrought by the delicate hand of nature on its fleecy texture; it is coarse white and black canvass, and nature looks as if she mourned in sackcloth. The *Monk at his Devotions*, 329, proves Sir WILLIAM's inadequacy to historical painting, even in a half-length. As devotion is the most refined and elevated employment of the mind, associating it immediately with the *Supreme*, it should be represented in the most refined of human forms and expression; but this is a mean form; the drawing is wretched; and in the vulgar face of a devotee of earth rather than heaven, of a sensualist rather than a saint, are exhibited streams of red wine, and streaks of red meat. We recommend it to Sir WILLIAM to pursue his successful practice of portraits, and not to venture so far on the expansive ocean of art, where he is evidently out of his depth.

Mr. H. Hoare Townsend has evinced a pure taste in his purchase of Mr. B. BARKER's Landscapes, 427, remarkable for its aerial hue, vigorous pencil, and beamy light, and 438, for its plenitude of effect.—They are duplicates of nature; as are Mr. T. BARKER's, 354, 362, 399, which are valuable for the varied hues of the day, silvery, floating, magnificent clouds, and for just and distant perspectives. It is no wonder these gentlemen are so popular at Bath, the second city in England for taste in the Arts.

473. *Rosline Castle*, G. ARNALD, presents the luxuriance, pomp, and prodigality of Autumn. The eye is charmed with the immense distance, stretching and decaying into smoke, seen through hills shagged with trees, while "the many coloured woods, shade deep'ning into shade, the country round imbrown;"

"Towers and battlements it sees,
"Bosom'd high in tufted trees,"

and the stream, sleeping in the deep vale, reflects on its lucid bosom the blue and lofty sky. It is "a still retreat, a flowery solitude, a majestic paradise."—This picture was yesterday purchased by his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, who is becoming as popular among our able English artists for his taste as he is among the English people for his constitutional principles and unimpeachable morals.

Mr. Jones has bought Mr. Arnald's fine silver-ton'd and splendid moonlight, No. 367.

196. *An old Decoy Pond.* R. R Reinagle.—The serenity of a summer eve, its broad shadows, rich foliage, fringed with the golden rays of a departing sun, with masterly clair obscure, are all so impressively true to nature, that many applications for it were made after its purchase by the Earl of Egremont.

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

Some days since, a woman applied to Mrs. Fleming, of the Ship public-house, in Ogle-street, Mary-le-bonne, for change for a 2l. note, which having obtained, she solicited leave to go into the privy, when a girl was sent with her. In the course of the evening, a neighbour having occasion to go there, observed a bundle, which, on being taken out, was found to contain the body of a new-born infant, and in its cloaths was found a letter, by which the party was discovered. She proves to be a servant out of place, and, on being acquainted with the charge, voluntarily attended at Bow-street, where she acknowledged the letter to belong to her, but said she had lost it. She also produced a medical man, who attended her two days previously to that on which the child was dropped, who, together with the woman with whom she lived, deposed that they had no reason to believe her to be pregnant.

UNION-HALL.

Child Stealing.—On Thursday *Sophia Buter*, underwent an examination, charged on the oath of Charles Wagharn, who keeps the Horns Tap, at Kennington, with stealing from him a child aged two years; by whose statement it appeared, that about eleven o'clock in the morning of the preceding day, he lost his infant daughter, and that it was found between the hours of two and three o'clock in the afternoon, by Robert Collins, a Constable; who stated, that in consequence of an information he had received of the child, having been stolen, and likewise a description of the woman, he went in pursuit of her, and traced her to Balaam-hill, near Clapham, where he apprehended her with the child in an errand cart.—The prisoner was committed.

A fine little girl, three years old, the daughter of Mrs. Penstone, a widow, in Portland-street, was stolen from the door of her parent, on Thursday morning, and has not since been recovered. The child was seen in the arms of a middle-aged woman in Oxford-street, by a servant who lives next door to Mrs. Penstone; but she had no suspicion of its having been clandestinely obtained, and it was not until the child had been missed, that she communicated what she had seen.

A little boy was also taken from the door of Mr. Rivers, in Berwick-street, on Wednesday morning, and after having been stripped of his cloaths, he was left at the door of his parent at ten o'clock at night. A woman has been taken into custody on suspicion of the latter offence, in consequence of her having been found to possess a frock supposed to belong to the child.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

A remarkable occurrence took place on Tuesday morning at Spithead. A man belonging to the Salcette frigate, was sentenced to be flogged through the fleet for thieving. The boats from all the men of war, as is customary upon those occasions, were assembled; when, at the moment the punishment was about to be inflicted, he jumped overboard, and was never afterwards seen. It is conjectured he had previously concealed some shot in his pockets, to prevent the possibility of rising again in the water.

On Thursday morning Sir Jacob Astley received an account, by an express from his seat, Milton, Norfolk, that his Lady and amiable daughter were both so dreadfully burnt, by means of their cloaths catching fire, that their recovery is doubtful. The accident is stated to have happened about two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, in the following manner:—Miss Astley being standing close before the drawing-room fire, adjusting some ornaments in the chimney-piece, her clothes were, from the suction of the chimney, drawn to the fire, and being of thin muslin, were immediately in a blaze; Lady Astley, being the only person in the room, ran to her daughter's relief, and the sad consequence of which was, that the fire communicated also to her Ladyship's dress; their screams brought some of the servants to their assistance, who extinguished the flames, and immediately rendered every other necessary assistance.—Miss Astley expired on Thursday last.

On Wednesday, as three women were crossing Blackfriars-bridge, a horse, which had taken fright, drew a cart with such extreme velocity, that it threw them down, when the wheel went over one of their heads, and killed her on the spot; a second had one of her legs broken; and the third escaped with some slight contusions. The body of the deceased was taken to the burying-ground of St. Anne's, Blackfriars, where it was soon owned by the husband.

A serious accident occurred a few nights since to Mrs. Edwin, at the Theatre Royal, Dublin. In the middle of the first act of the afterpiece (*Ella Rosenburgh*), in the rencontre between *Storm* and *Mountford*, she received a severe wound in the face from the sword of one of the actors.

The following is an extract from a Jamaica Paper:—"Parish of St. Elizabeth—Mr. James Jennings, who was settling a coffee plantation, about three miles from this, had his throat cut; his housekeeper, her head severed from her body; their eldest daughter, her throat cut; the next boy, cut and scalped; the third, strangled; and a black child, his throat cut, and scalped; there is also one of Mr. Jennings's brown children missing, about three years old, which, there is not the least doubt, has shared the same fate; and the murderers, to complete their barbarity, cut the throat of a milch-goat, which they left weltering in its blood. These cruel and barbarous murders were committed on a Sunday, and supposed to be done by six Coromantee negro men, purchased by Mr. Jennings about six months ago. One of the above negroes was discovered in the woods by a party sent in pursuit of them, who shot him on the spot. He was wrapped in the clothes of the woman they had so cruelly murdered."

MARRIAGES.

On Wednesday last, at Melbury, the seat of the Earl of Ilchester, Lord Henry Petty to Lady Louisa Strangeways, sister to the noble Earl.

DEATHS.

On Tuesday last, at Richmond, in Surrey, aged 70 years, Sir J. Pennyman, Bart. of Ormsby-Hall, in the county of York.

On Tuesday last, Robert Williams, Esq. formerly of South Carolina, aged 75.

On Wednesday, at a very advanced age, Sir Henry Grey, Bart. He was the elder brother of the late Earl Grey, and uncle to the present; he never was married; and by his death Earl Grey becomes possessed of his immense estates, besides a fortune for each of his younger children. Sir Henry has also left large legacies to each of his Lordship's brothers and sisters, and has made all his old servants comfortable for the remainder of their lives.

At Bath, yesterday week, Sir Negel Greenley, Bart. of Drakelow, Derbyshire.

Printed and published by John Hunt, at the Examiner Office, 15, Beaufort Buildings, Strand.—Price 7½d.